



Universal Printer Pre- and Post-processing Interface....

**For improved process
management and control**

A number of top players in the digital printing industry, with a core team from Duplo, Hunkeler, IBM, Océ, Stralfors and Xerox have joined forces to develop an open, expandable and intelligent interface standard for all the hardware components in the digital print process. UP³I – the Universal Printer- Pre- and Post-Processing Interface – will centralise and unify process control for all the equipment on the print line, laying the foundation for CCM (Computer Controlled Manufacturing) in digital printing.

As an open, expandable interface, the UP³I specification will establish a standard for process management and control. It is based on the industry standards IEEE 1394, SNMP and RFC's. The specification can be used by any equipment manufacturer free of charge.

Today's and future standards for workflow management like JDF or other job descriptions can be used to operate UP³I enabled process lines.

UP³I features in profile

1. Greater productivity through faster setup times, particularly for very short press runs.
2. New functionality with real-time process control.
3. Central monitoring and ease of use due to a single point of operation with one look & feel.

All this results in maximum efficiency in use of paper and machine deployment – this makes for less spoilage and lower costs

UP³I boosts the productivity of the system

Today, an operator has to enter job setup information manually on each system component separately – and each of these components could have a different design of user interface. Via the UP³I Manager, the communications interface between the system components, it will be possible to use a central, unified control facility for entering the job setup information, enabling remote control of every component in the printing process chain – from the printer through to the trimmer and binding equipment. The unified look and feel and the intuitive handling of all devices will minimise the cost of training operators and reduce make ready time.

To effectively and efficiently convert traditional manual processes to automatic, the UP³I standard fills the void that previously existed between the printer and the post-processing and finishing.

UP³I provides control information in real time

UP³I makes it possible to communicate with all the components in the system – the server and software, the printer, cutter and finishing equipment – and transmit dynamic controls to trigger changes in cutting and finishing formats. For example, printing signatures with different numbers of pages (a sequence of 16-8-16-16-16 pages, for instance) or switching the output path from folder to stitcher or stacker becomes possible because of UP³I.

UP³I provides transparent process control

The UP³I standard has been designed as an open architecture and working with today's common standards such as AFP, IPDS, PDF and JDF. With an architecture designed to interface seamlessly with process control systems like Océ PRISMA and OP Server, IBM Infoprint Manager and Infoprint Workflow, previously labor-intensive control processes can now be automated and highly accurate. Thus enhancing and supporting process management and security systems already in place.

UP³I Core Group:



UP³I Associated Developer:



Involved Partners:



The UP³I specification was developed by the core group members Duplo International Ltd., Hunkeler AG, IBM Corporation, Océ Printing Systems GmbH and Strålfors AB. The UP³I specification is now available for use and can be found at www.up3i.org.